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1971

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS



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* TO THE *
*
* GOVERNOR OF MONTANA *
*
* HONORABLE FORREST H. ANDERSON *
*

FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED
JUNE 30, 1971

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Board of Medical Examiners

HELENA, MONTANA 59601

1236 HELENA AVENUE

CHARLES P. BROOKE, M.D., MISSOULA
JOHN T. HURLY, M.D., BILLINGS
JOHN A. LAYNE, M.D., GREAT FALLS
D. S. MACKENZIE, JR., M.D., HAVRE
JOHN C. SEIDENSTICKER, M.D., DILLON
GAYLEN J. STONER, M.D., PLENTYWOOD
WILLIAM F. CASHMORE, M.D., HELENA
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Honorable Forrest H. Anderson
Governor
State of Montana
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Governor Anderson:

In accordance with the requirements of Sections 82-4001 and 82-4002, R.C.M., 1947, there is herewith transmitted to you the report of the Board of Medical Examiners for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971.

Major accomplishments during the year included:

Increased number of physicians practicing in Montana;

Upgraded medical staff in state institutions;


Adopted the FLEX Examination;

Waived ECFMG requirement for Canadian graduates;

Recommendations to facilitate the achievement of goals include:

Continue administration of the Medical Practice Act;

Respectfully submitted,


WM. F. CASHMORE, M.D.
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

WFC/vm

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

FISCAL YEAR 1971

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

<u>OFFICER</u> <u>TERM OF OFFICE</u>	<u>HOME ADDRESS</u>
Charles P. Brooke, M.D. 1967 - September 1, 1974	307 University Missoula
John C. Seidensticker, M.D. 1969 - September 1, 1976	512 South Arizona Dillon
Wm. F. Cashmore, M.D. 1965 - September 1, 1971	10 North Montana Helena
John T. Hurly, M.D. 1967 - September 1, 1973	1230 North 30th Billings
John A. Layne, M.D. 1969 - September 1, 1975	Great Falls Clinic Great Falls
D. S. MacKenzie, Jr., M.D. 1965 - September 1, 1972	301 4th Avenue Havre
Galen J. Stoner, M.D. 1970 - September 1, 1977	120 East Second Avenue Plentywood

PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Charles P. Brooke, M.D., President
 John C. Seidensticker, M.D., Vice-Pres.
 Wm. F. Cashmore, M.D., Executive Sec.

PRINCIPAL OFFICE

1236 Helena Avenue, Helena

Greetings

The Board of Medical Examiners operates under authority of Statute No. 66-1010 to 1049, Chapter 338, Session Laws of 1969. The purpose of the Board is to license qualified practitioners of medicine to provide for the medical needs of the people of Montana, to supervise licensed practitioners, investigate and discipline, when necessary, those who may practice in an unprofessional manner.

In the past fiscal year, ninety-four physicians were licensed. This is a considerable increase over past years. More and more physicians are moving from the large cities and suburbs to Montana, The Big Sky Country, to better the living conditions for themselves and their families. We now have 746 physicians on an active basis, which is an increase in the past year of 61. There is one physician for each 1,000 of population. One physician for each 750 would be more desirable and should be the goal. There are sufficient numbers of physicians in our larger cities - those over 10,000 population; while in the smaller cities and towns they are insufficient. Seventy-six per cent of the physicians are located in the cities over 10,000 population with a total calculated population of such cities of about 260,000. This leaves twenty-three per cent of the physicians for the rural population of approximately 440,000. The physicians in the larger centers provide medical care for the surrounding rural areas, some of which are extensive. In recent years, more than 80% of those licensed are specialists and tend to go to the larger cities. Less than 20% are general practitioners who tend to go to the small cities and towns. Thirty years ago, for example, less

than 20% were specialists and 80% were general practitioners; so during that time, the situation has reversed itself.

In the disciplinary area, there has been a marked increase in activity in the last five years. There were approximately twenty-five investigations and about fifteen were called before the Board. Three licenses were revoked and four were on a probationary status. During the last year, however, no licenses were revoked. One previously revoked was reinstated.

Nearly all of the American medical school graduates have been licensed in another state or have passed the National Board Examination so they are licensed by reciprocity or endorsement. Foreign medical graduates are licensed only by sitting the Montana Examination. Seven sat the Montana Examination in the past fiscal year. Very few American graduates sit the Montana Examination. The Montana Board requires that foreign medical graduates, as a prerequisite, pass the examination given by the Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG). The Board at it's last meeting waived that requirement for Canadian graduates.

The Montana Board, along with some twenty-eight sister states, has recently adopted the Federation Licensing Examination (FLEX). It appears that within the near future the FLEX Examination will be the universal and standard examination used by American medical boards. The FLEX Examination is made up by a joint committee of the Federation of State Boards of Medical Examiners and National Board of Medical Examiners. It is a multiple choice, comprehensive, high quality examination which is given over three days in June and December of each year. It is corrected by a computer.



There is a problem in obtaining qualified medical staff for our state institutions such as Warm Springs, Galen and Boulder. At the present time, the medical staff for those institutions is believed to be the best ever. All the physicians are either on a temporary or full license.

The Board grants temporary licenses to those who meet the requirements and are qualified and who are awaiting citizenship or to meet with the Board. The temporary license is an excellent instrument to obtain physicians without delay and is, no doubt, very helpful in obtaining physicians for Montana who could go elsewhere.

The 42nd Legislature passed an Executive Re-organization Act, which will consolidate twenty-six licensing boards under one director and staff, which will do the administrative work of the board. This is, presumably, to take place before January 1, 1972.

The 42nd Legislature also amended the Medical Practice Act by House Bill 273 to license osteopaths to come under the provisions of the Medical Practice Act and to practice medicine and surgery in Montana. An Attorney General's opinion has been obtained for guidance in the administration of the revised act. Such osteopaths may be licensed only by sitting the Montana Examination. None have yet applied.

The Montana Board of Medical Examiners licenses Physical Therapists and Podiatrists. In Fiscal Year 1971 fifteen Physical Therapists were licensed and there were five Podiatrists licensed by reciprocity.

The cash balance in the earmarked revenue fund #215200 as of July 1, 1971 was \$22,208.07. No money is appropriated from the general fund.

Attached hereto is a tabulated schedule of the Physicians, Physical Therapists and Podiatrists licensed in Montana.

* * * * *

PROGRAM COST SUMMARY

	<u>COST</u>	<u>INCREASE</u>
1969-70 FY	18,369	
1970-71 FY	21,163	2,794 (1)
1971-72 FY	22,600	1,437 (2)

- (1) Increase in salaries, pro rata charges & communications costs.
- (2) New equipment needed & anticipated increase in other operating expenses

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PROGRAM COST DETAIL

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>PERSONAL SERVICES</u>	<u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u>
1970-71 FY	21,163	13,400	7,763

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SOURCE OF FUNDING FY 1970-71

Earmarked Revenue Fund #215200	18,887
Budget Amendment	<u>3,100</u>
TOTAL	21,987

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